

REMARKS

This Supplemental Amendment follows the Request for Continued Examination filed on December 16, 2011.

Status

Claims 1-58 are pending in this Application. Claims 33 and 35-57 are currently withdrawn from consideration and Claims 1-32, 34 and 58 currently stand rejected.

Independent Claim 58 and Dependent Claims 2, 5-16 have been previously canceled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits. Under this Supplemental Amendment, Claims 33-57 are canceled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits.

Independent Claim 1 has been amended in a manner that the Applicants believe has overcome the objections and rejections. Dependent Claims 17, 20-23, 25 and 30 have been amended for clarity and consistency.

The Applicants believe the rejections and objections raised by the Examiner have been overcome and the Application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of pending Claims 1, 3, 4 and 17-32 is respectfully requested.

Summary of Telephonic Interview

A telephonic interview was held on December 19, 2011 between the Examiner and the undersigned representative of the Applicants to discuss proposed claims amendments intended to place the pending claims into condition for allowance. The Applicants proposed amendments to recite the "ramp formations." The Examiner indicated that he would further search and consider the proposed amendments. The Applicants agreed to submit the proposed amendments in this Supplemental Amendment for the Examiner's consideration.

Support for Amendments

The Applicants respectfully submit that the support for the proposed amendments to recite the “ramp formation” features can be found in the Applicants’ specification at (among others) paragraphs 0047, 0049 and 0051 and in Figures 7 (see elements 140) and Figure 8 (see elements 140 and 140a, 140b, 140c and 140d).

* * *

The Applicants submit that each and every outstanding objection and rejection to the pending claims has been overcome, and the Application is now in condition for allowance. Independent Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly recite subject matter that the Applicant respectfully submits is patentable in view of the cited references. The Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Amendment and reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1, 3, 4 and 17-32.

* * *

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of

papers submitted herewith, the Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extension fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date December 20, 2011

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